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AGDA (M) (13 Jan 71) FOR OT UT 703216

18 January 1971

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 18th
Engineer Brigade, Period Ending 31 July 1970

AD879427

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Kenneth G. Wickham

KENNETH G. WICKHAM
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General

1971

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 18TH ENGINEER BRIGADE
APO 96377

AVBC-CG

31 July 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, 18th Engineer Brigade,
Period Ending 31 July 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development
Department of the Army
Washington, D. C. 20310

1. Operations: Significant Activities

a. Personnel

(1) Awards: The use of letters of recommendation for processing Army Commendation Medals for service has been expanded to include deserving personnel of all grades. This has facilitated processing of Army Commendation Medals for service. During the report period, the following awards were presented to Brigade personnel:

Silver Star	1
Legion of Merit	11
Soldiers Medal	5
Bronze Star (V)	8
Bronze Star	265
Army Commendation Medal (V)	20
Army Commendation Medal	1846
Air Medal	183
TOTAL	2360

(2) PIO: Due to broadcasting equipment being damaged by lightning, the weekly radio show, "18th Brigade Update" was not aired over AFVN for the last three weeks of the report period. Equipment has been repaired and the program has been resumed.

(3) Reenlistment:

(a) By US Army Vietnam directive, effective 1 July 1970, the reenlistment quota for USARV was changed as follows:

(1) The objective was raised from .5% to 1% of the average enlisted assigned strength for the entire previous month.

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(2) With the change in percentage, all reenlistments in all categories, including RA Career, will be credited toward fulfillment of the quota.

(b) The impact of this raise in the objective has lowered the Brigade's percentage of the objective attained; however, the addition of the RA Career category will assist in reaching the overall quota. Continued improvement in reenlistment goal achievement is forecast.

(c) Command emphasis has been placed upon the reenlistment progress during the past reporting period. Commanders have been encouraged to take a personal and continuing interest in the reenlistment program. Reenlistment achievement for this reporting period has been 72% of the assigned quotas, with 159 personnel enlisted or reenlisted against USARV quotas of 229.

(4) S-1: Open Mess Management: During this reporting period the S-1 assumed staff responsibility for supervision of the open mess system in accordance with recently published USARV and DA regulations. This policy change strengthens the commander's direct supervision of the open mess system and will improve open mess operations and management.

b. Intelligence: The reporting period is marked by a 65% (from 316 to 533) increase in the number of enemy incidents, an increase in the number of KIA 210% (from 6 to 13) and a 143% (from 57 to 138) increase in WIA's.

c. Operations

(1) Operational Support: Approximately 45% of the Brigade Construction effort was devoted to Combat and Operational Support Missions during the reporting period. Major activities are submitted below:

(a) Land Clearing: The Brigade land clearing companies continued full scale operations in I and II Military Regions, with the support of additional bulldozer equipment organic to the Combat and Construction Battalions. These companies cleared 28,953 acres during the period.

(1) 35th Engr Gp ACR: The 687th Engineer Company (LC) completed clearing Route LTL 8B, 344, Gia Nghia, Nhon Co, and QL-14, and moved to the Cam Ranh Bay area. This unit cleared 4482 acres during the period.

(2) 45th Engr Gp ACR: The 59th Engineer Company (LC) and battalion land clearing teams completed clearing 13,351 acres in S. Hoi An BT191420; Barbara Road, YD353352; and Mai Loc, YD130480. Units are clearing at the present time at Phu Thu, YD960170; Batangan Peninsula, BS670930; and Mo Duc, BS750590.

(3) 937th Engr Gp ACR: The 538th Engineer Company (LC) cleared 11,120 acres during the report period. The 538th completed clearing Route LTL 7B, 2E, and QL-14. Unit is clearing QL-19 East and Route 508 at the end of the report period.

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, 18th Engineer Brigade,
Period Ending 31 July 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

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Constructed Fire Support Base Athena

Constructed living, fighting bunkers at FSB Two Bits

Constructed aircraft revetments at An Khe

Removed matting at LZ Oasis

Repaired tactical roads QL-19B, Route 509, and Route 299

(2) LOC Construction: 38% of the Brigade effort was expended on LOC work during the period with 88 km paved to MACV standards. Other major accomplishments were:

(a) Construction of the Song Vo Bridge on QL-1 in MR 1 by the 39th Engr Bn of the 45th Gp. This is one of the largest bridges currently being constructed and its completion marked a significant step in the LOC program.

(b) Another major project was the completion of 25 km of QL-14S from Dragon Mountain to the road junction of LTL 7B. This road work was accomplished by the 20th Engr Bn.

(c) In preparation for LOC work on QL-20, the Dillard Industrial site was begun at Di Linh by the 815th Engr Bn and the 102nd Engr Co (CS). Crusher operation has started, and work is continuing on setting up asphalt operation.

(d) Reconnaissance, engineering tests and site investigations have been conducted for an industrial site in the area of Buon Ho. This site will be operated by the 937th Engr Gp for LOC work on the uncompleted portion of 14S.

(3) Engineer Plans:

(a) The Engineering and Plans Section continued with work at developing bridge and road structural designs, and monitored quality control in the Brigade AO.

(b) Significant designs produced during the report period included final designs and plans for bridges 11-52 and 11-54 including pier protection.

(c) Engineering problems introduced by subordinate units were resolved. Those problems related to bridge and LOC road construction, and the design analysis at the Bu Prang bunkers and other non-LOC projects.

(d) During the period numerous site visits were made to monitor quality control. Classes were given on construction techniques and proper quality control measures. Additional quality control equipment was procured

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from the 3rd Naval Construction Brigade, for issue to the 35th Engr Gp. Quality Control assistance was given to the 19th Engr Bn on Bu Prang Airfield. Coordination was continued with USAECV (P) to train soils analysts.

(e) Topographic surveys of A & E designed bridges were continued.

(f) Other staff sections continued to support with graphic aids and charts.

(4) Logistics

(a) Construction Materials: The supply situation for construction materials has shown marked improvement during the past six months. Command emphasis has been placed on forecasting requirements for all types of steel, lumber and asphalt products. Experience has shown that a 60 day minimum procurement lead time on steel and asphalt precludes work stoppages for most items. The assistance of Engineer Command alleviated many problems in obtaining materials which are not available in the Brigade Area of Operation.

(b) TOE Equipment: The Brigade is presently experiencing difficulty in establishing valid requisitions for shortages of Major End Items at the Inventory Control Center Vietnam. Many O2 priority requisitions are lost between supporting DSU's and ICCV. To alleviate these problems, the following procedures have been established:

(1) All units within the Brigade are preparing lists of outstanding equipment requisitions which will be hand carried to ICCV for reconciliation.

(2) All requisitions which have been cancelled or are not on record at ICCV will be cancelled at the unit and support DSU and re-requisitioned.

(3) All new requisitions for PEMA items will be hand-carried through the DSU and ICCV.

(4) All property book officers will make more frequent visits to the DSU's to verify status on outstanding PEMA requisitions. In addition, units are reviewing their requisitioning procedures to eliminate erroneous entries on the 2765-1's.

2. Lessons Learned: Commander's Observations, Evaluations, and Recommendations:

a. Personnel: None.

b. Operations:

(1) Crusher grizzlies clogged by mud.

(a) Observation: An expedient method is needed to resolve mud build-up on crusher grizzlies.

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(b) Evaluation: Lengths of 1" chain, 1' to 1½' long were welded onto the crusher grizzly and allowed to hang down the scalping chute. The movement of the grizzly and the action of the scalped material causes the chain to move. This in turn minimizes mud and wet material from clinging to the sides of the chute.

(c) Recommendation: Use this expedient method when mud builds up on crusher grizzly.

(2) Cleaning Primed Surfaces

(a) Observation: There is a requirement to clean primed road surfaces quickly before paving.

(b) Evaluation: After applying the prime coat to the road surface, undesirable materials (i.e. trash, pebbles, dust) accumulate on the surface. The air stream from an air compressor is a useful tool in cleaning the surface. Apply the airstream from the centerline and blow debris to either side of the road.

(c) Recommendation: Use this method for cleaning the road surface when a rotary broom is not available.

(3) Claymore Protection During Rain

(a) Observation: Rain covers are needed for claymore mines.

(b) Evaluation: During the rainy season, rain water enters the detonating caps of claymores and renders them useless. Salvaged 55 gallon drums may be cut in half vertically and then horizontally. The quarters can then be used as rain covers for the claymore mines, protecting them sufficiently to eliminate misfires.

(c) Recommendation: Use these rain covers on claymore mines during the rainy season to insure their operability.

(4) Protecting Electrical Connections in Wet Weather

(a) Observation: Protection is needed for electrical controls and connections during the rainy season.

(b) Evaluation: Waterproofing of industrial plant starters and breakers is necessary during the monsoon season. All start-stop switches and breakers can be consolidated in a central location inside a salvaged CONEX container. The wires must be insulated from the CONEX walls and the openings where the wires enter the CONEX must be waterproofed. The CONEX box must be grounded. This closed container will protect the electrical switches from getting wet and shorting out and will provide a central location for controls.

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(c) Recommendation: Electrical controls must be consolidated and protected from rain during the monsoon season.

c. Training: None.

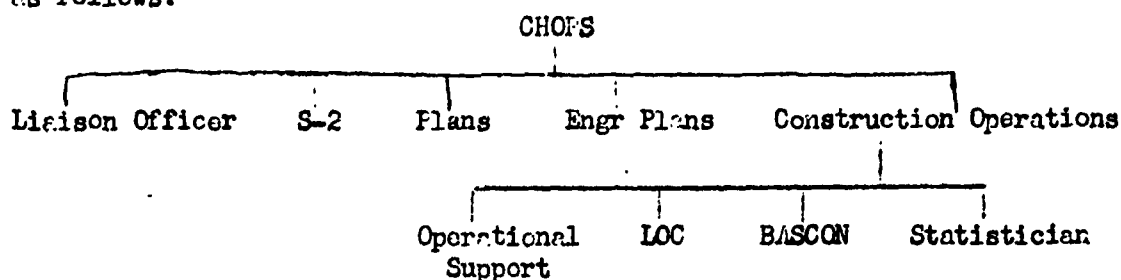
d. Intelligence: None.

e. Logistics: None.

f. Organization:

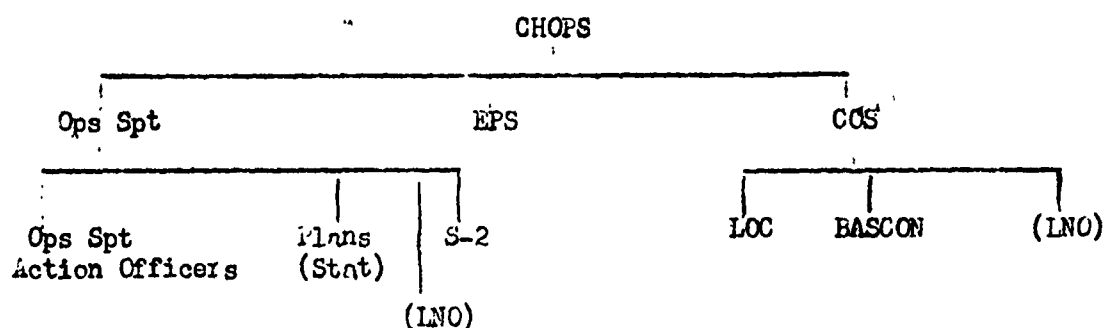
Organization of CHOPS Section

(1) Observation: The 18th Engr Bde Operations Section was organized as follows:



(2) Evaluation: With this organization the work load was unbalanced, COS having too heavy a share of the work to be done. Also the spans of control of CHOPS and the Chief of COS were too great.

(3) Recommendation: To distribute the work load more evenly and reduce spans of control, the CHOPS section was reorganized as follows:



Note: The LNO alternates weekly between the Chief of Ops Spt and Chief of Const Spt, thereby obtaining maximum coverage of all operations.

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g. Communications:

(1) Observation: To operate an Industrial Complex efficiently, a responsive communications system is required. A recent development in Signal Communications introduced the Radio, Terminal AN/GRC 163, FSN 5820-832-5617. This set provides 4 voice and 2 teletype channels over an FM radio set. The equipment requires little maintenance or experience to operate.

(2) Evaluation: The AN/GRC 163 has been employed very successfully at two locations, providing a vital link between the major reporting headquarters and the Industrial Complex.

(3) Recommendation: The AN/GRC 163 should be added to the TOE of all levels of Engineer units down to battalions.

1 Incl
18th Brigade Station List


H. C. SCHRADER
Brigadier General, USA
Commanding

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2 - CO, 20th Engr Bde, ATTN: AVBI-OS, APO 96491
1 - CO, 35th Engr Gp, APO 96312
1 - CO, 45th Engr Gp, APO 96308
1 - CO, 937th Engr Gp, APO 96226

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AVCC-120 (31 Jul 70) 1st Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Reports - Lessons Learned for 18th Engineer Brigade,
Period Ending 31 July 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

DA, HQ, US Army Engineer Command Vietnam (Prov), APO 96491 4 OCT 1970

TO: Commanding General, United States Army Vietnam, ATTN: AVHCC-DST,
APO 96375

Subject report is under review in this Headquarters. Comments for inclusion in the Headquarters, USARV indorsement to CINUSARPAC will be forwarded to your Headquarters by separate cover.

FOR THE COMMANDER:



ROBERT E. SHEA
CPT, AGC
Assistant Adjutant

AVHDO-DO (31 Jul 70) 2d Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, 18th Engineer Brigade,
Period Ending 31 July 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

Headquarters, United States Army Vietnam, APO San Francisco 96375 27 OCT 1970

TO: Commander in Chief, United States Army Pacific, ATTN: GPOP-DT,
APO 96558

1. This Headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the quarterly period ending 31 July 1970 from Headquarters, 18th Engineer Brigade and comments of indorsing headquarters.
2. Reference item concerning "Communications," page 8, paragraph 2g. The recommendation appears to have merit. The unit should submit a change through command channels to Combat Developments Command as outlined in the Special Instruction of the "G" Series TOE and paragraph 2-10, AR 310-31. Unit has been so advised.

FOR THE COMMANDER:


R. E. THOMPSON CPT AGC
CPT, AGC
Assistant Adjutant General

Cy furn:
USAECV(P)
18th Engr Bde

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GPOP-DT (31 Jul 70) 3d Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned, HQ 18th Engineer
Brigade, for the Period Ending 31 July 1970,
RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

HQ, US Army, Pacific, APO San Francisco 96558 6 NOV 70

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Department
of the Army, Washington, D. C. 20310

This headquarters concurs in subject report as indorsed.

FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF:



D.D. CLINE
2LT, JSC
Asst AG

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 18TH ENGINEER BRIGADE
APO 96377

AVBC-OS

8 September 1970

SUBJECT: 18th Engineer Brigade Station List

In accordance with 18th Engr Bde Reg 335-18, the following Unit Station List is submitted as of 1 September 1970.

UNIT	LOCATION	COORD	APO
HQ, 18th Engr Bde	Dong Ba Thin	CP035290	96377
HQ, 35th Engr Gp (Const)	Cam Ranh Bay	CP058145	96312
40th Engr Det (WD)	Tien Giao	AN285875	96317
588th Engr Det (WD)	Cam Ranh Bay	CP058145	96312 **
171st Engr Det (WD)	Ban Me Thout	AQ030789	96297
553rd Engr Co (FB)	Dong Ba Thin	CP035303	96377
687th Engr Co (LC)	Cam Ranh Bay	CP058145	96312
497th Engr Co (PC)	Cam Ranh Bay	CP058145	96312
HHC/577th Engr Bn (Const)	Don Duong	BP392110	96204
A/577	Don Duong	BP392110	96204
B/577	Duc Trong	BP152012	96204
C/577	Duc Trong	BP152012	96204
D/577	Don Duong	BP392110	96204
51st Engr Plt (asphalt)	Don Duong	BP392110	96204
589th Engr Bn (Const)	Phan Rang	BN753873	96321
A/589	Phan Rang	BN753873	96321
B/589	Vinh Hao	BN530469	96321
C/589	Thon Song Pha	BP492083	96321
D/589	Phu Quy	BN739743	96321
585th Engr Co (DT)	Phan Rang	BN753873	96321
513th Engr Co (DT) (-)	Phan Rang	BN753873	96321
2/513th Engr Co	Don Duong	BP392110	96204
73rd Engr Plt	Vinh Hao	BN530469	96321
815th Engr Bn (Const)	Camp Smith	ZT023753	96493
HHC/815 (Sup Hq)	Cam Ranh Bay	CP058145	96312
A/815	Dillard Indust Site	AN968862	96204
B/815	Di Linh	AN814818	96204
C/815 (-)	Camp Smith	ZT023753	96493
D/815	Dillard Indust Site	AN968862	96204
Det A/815 (Maint Sup)	Camp Smith	ZT023753	96493
Earthmoving 1/C/815	Camp Brown	YT843621	96493
A/19th Engr Bn (-)	Camp Brown	YT843621	96493
3/A/19	Intransit		

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AVBC-CS

SUBJECT: 18th Engr Bde Station List

UNIT	LOCATION	COORD	APG
542nd Engr Det (PD) (HH)	Camp Smith	ZT023753	96493
102nd Engr Co (CS)	Dillard Indust Site	AN968862	96204
572nd Engr Co (LE)	Camp Smith	ZT023753	96493
547th Engr Plt (Asphalt)	Camp Smith	ZT023753	96493
864th Engr Bn (Const)	Phan Thiet	AN812073	96317
A/864th (-)	Phan Thiet	AN812073	96317
Maint/A/864	Phan Thiet	AN801062	96317
B/864 (-)	Hot Rocks	BQ192134	96297
1/B/864	Phan Thiet	AN801062	96317
C/864	Phan Thiet	AN923215	96317
D/864	Phan Thiet	AN923215	96317
73rd Engr Co (CS)	Phan Thiet	AN923215	96317
HQ, 937th Engr Gp (Cbt)	Phu Tai	DR997245	96226
Hqs, 19th Engr Bn Fwd	Camp Swampy	BQ192134	96240
Hqs, 19th Engr Bn Rear	Camp McDermott	CP053502	96240
HHC, 19th Engr Bn	Camp McDermott	CP053502	96240
HHC, 19th Engr Bn	Camp Swampy	BQ192134	96240
2/B/19th HQ (-)	Khanh Duong	BQ543103	96240
1/B/19	Ninh Hoa	BP968814	96240
3/B/19	Ban Me Thout	AQ792029	96240
C/19	Camp Swampy	BQ192134	96240
D/19 (-)	Camp McDermott	CP053502	96240
1/D/19	Dong Ba Thin	CP035303	96377
3/D/19	Classified Location		
B/864	Camp Swampy	BQ192134	96240
1/3/864	Phan Thiet	AN801062	96317
517th Engr Plt (Asphalt)	Khanh Duong	BQ543103	96240
1/585th (DT)	Khanh Duong	BQ543103	96240
610th (CS)	Khanh Duong	BQ543103	96240
HHC/20th Engr Bn (Cbt)	Camp Wilson	AR763530	96318
A/20th (-)	Camp Wilson	AR763530	96318
1/A/20th	Weight-Davis	AR895120	96318 **
B/20th (-)	Camp Wilson	AR763530	96318
3/B/20th	Weight-Davis	AR895120	96318 **
C/20th	Camp Wilson	AR763530	96318
D/20th	Weight-Davis	AR895120	96318
584th Engr Co (LE) (-)	Weight-Davis	AR895120	96318
2/584th Engr Co	An Khe	DR443442	96274
509th Engr Co (PB) (-)	Camp Wilson	AR763530	96318
1/509th Engr Co	Qui Nhon	CRO81231	96318

AVBC-OS

SUBJECT: 18th Engr Bde Station List

UNIT	LOCATION	COORD	APO
HHC/84th Engr Bn (Const)	Qui Nhon	CR052225	96238
A/84th (-)	Phu Tai	BR994239	96226
1/A/84th	Camp Radcliff	BR473435	96294
B/84th	Bong Son	BR871955	96238
C/84th (-)	Qui Nhon	CR052225	96238
1/C/84th	Binh Khe	BR685430	96238
D/84th	Camp Radcliff	BR473435	96294
536th Engr Det (PC)	Bong Son	BR871955	96328
23rd Engr Det (WD)	Phu Lam	CQ175428	96238 **
614th Engr Det (PD) (HH)	An Khe	BR453453	96294
HHC/299th Engr Bn (Cbt)	Phu Tai	BR999245	96226
A/299th	An Khe	BR443442	96294
D/299th	Phu Tai	BR999245	96226
C/299th	LZ North English	BS884056	96226
D/299th	Phu Tai	CR005185	96226
1/D/299th	LZ Salem	DR711846	96238
2/D/299th	LZ Hardcore	BR627473	96238
15th Engr Co (LE)	Phu Tai	CR008185	96226
2/553rd Engr Co (FB)	Phu Tai	CR008185	96226
538th Engr Det (LC)	An Khe	DR451451	96294
HQ, 45th Engr Gp (Const)	Phu Dai	YD878140	96308
HHC/14th Engr Bn (Cbt)	Quang Tri	YD312538	96475
A/14th	Quang Tri	YD312538	96495
B/14th (-)	Quang Tri	YD312538	96475
1/B/14th	FSB C-2	YD133646	96495
3/B/14th	80th Support Gp, DNG		
C/14th	FSB Nancy	YD443395	96495
D/14th (-)	Camp Evans	YD537327	96475
1/D/14th	FSB Rakkasan	YD486198	96475
630th Engr Co (LE)	Quang Tri	YD312538	96475
2/630th Engr Co (LE) (-)	FSB C-2	YD133646	96475
3/630th Engr Co (LE) (-)	Camp Evans	YD537327	96475
HHC/27th Engr Bn (Cbt)	Camp Eagle	YD833155	96308
A/27th	Camp Eagle	YD833155	96308
B/27th	Camp Eagle	YD833155	96308
C/27th (-)	Camp Eagle	YD833155	96308
3/C/27th	Camp Billy	YD638274	96308
D/27th	FSB Birmingham	YD703102	96308
591st Engr Co (LE)	Camp Eagle	YD833155	96308
Quarry Section/630th Engr Company	Camp Eagle	YD833155	96308 **

AVEC-OS

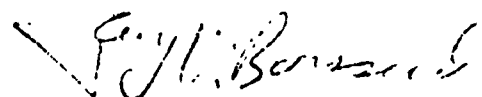
SUBJECT: 18th Engr Bde Station List

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>COORD</u>	<u>APD</u>
HHC/39th Engr Bn (Cbt)	Chu Lai Base	BT534036	96325
A/39th (-)	Chu Lai Base	BT534036	96325
1/A/39th	LZ Bronco	BS815383	96325
2/A/39th	LZ Crunch	BS534516	96325 **
3/A/39th	LZ Dottie	BS627856	96325 **
B/39th	LZ Dottie	BS627856	96325
2,3/B/39th	NDP	BS654960	96325 **
C/39th (-)	Chu Lai Base	BT534036	96325
1,3/C/39th	NDP Wrong Hole	BS738805	96325
D/39th (-)	Chu Lai Base	BT534036	96325
1,2/D/39th	LZ Joanie	BT296232	96325
3/D/39th	LZ Tien Phuoc	BT115135	96325
59th Engr Co (LC) (-)	Phu Bai	YD878140	96308 **
1,2,3/59th Engr Co (LC)	NDP	BS685916	96325 **
511th Engr Co (PB)	Chu Lai Base	BT534036	96325
49th Engr Det (WD)	FSB 4-11	BS538731	96325 **
137th Engr Co (LE) (-)	Chu Lai Base	BT534036	96325
2/137th Engr Co	NDP Wrong Hole	BS738805	96325
3/137th Engr Co	LZ Joanie	BT296232	96325

It is requested that if errors are noted on this list that they be reported to Brigade Intelligence Sergeant for correction.

** INDICATES CHANGE OF UNIT FROM LAST MONTH

FOR THE COMMANDER:


PAUL L. BORSSUCK
1LT, CE
Assistant Adjutant

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